



# CITY COUNCIL

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## Administrative Oversight Committee

**Monday, August 06, 2007  
Meeting Report**

**Attendance:** S. Marmarou, D. Sterner, M. Baez

**Others Attending:** C. Kanezo, L. Churchill, J. Ulrich

### **I. Interviews**

#### **Doris Leisawitz (Reappointment- Board of Ethics)**

Ms. Leisawitz expressed sincere interest to continue serving on the Board of Ethics. Ms. Leisawitz believed the board to be one of the most important City organizations, responsible for upholding State and Local law and applying standards for proper behavior.

Mr. Marmarou inquired how often the Ethics Board met to discuss issues. Ms. Leisawitz stated the board meets infrequently, unless an action is before the board. According to Ms. Leisawitz, the board solicitor, Atty. Ed Stock, handles most of the procedural issues.

Mr. Sterner asked if the board received any funding and if so, who provided the funding. Mr. Kanezo stated the Ethics Board receives an annual appropriation from the City of Reading general fund. Mr. Sterner asked if the allocation was equal to supporting the activities of the board. Ms. Leisawitz noted the relative inactivity of the board has kept costs down. Ms. Leisawitz indicated the current budget could likely support the full investigation of one case

Mr. Marmarou and Mr. Sterner both commented on the quality of Ms. Leisawitz's resume and her service to the City of Reading to date. Mr. Marmarou discussed the importance of the City Ethics Board and the need to keep qualified people serving.

Mr. Sterner commended Ms. Leisawitz for her willingness to volunteer.

Mr. Kanezo informed Ms. Leisawitz that Council would act upon the appointment resolution during the August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 regular meeting.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee recommended the reappointment of Ms. Doris Leisawitz to the Ethics Board.**

**Lynn Christy (Reappointment Reading Area Water Authority)**

Mr. Marmarou requested Mr. Christy elaborate why he was interested in continuing to serve the Reading Area Water Authority. Mr. Christy explained he has been doing an excellent job, and along with John Ulrich and Gerrel Hill, has been the only member of the Authority to attend all meetings.

Mr. Sterner questioned Mr. Christy as to what he thought were the greatest problems facing the Water Authority. Mr. Christy criticized the performance of Henry Tangredi and the IT Department. Mr. Christy felt the strained relationship between the City and the Authority is due, in no small part, to billing problems caused by IT. Mr. Christy also commented that poor attendance on the part of certain Authority members creates issues.

Mr. Ulrich – who noted he was attending to speak on behalf of Mr. Christy – discussed the importance of retaining competent professionals who understand the importance of regularly attending meetings and committing to understand complex problems. Mr. Ulrich described upcoming, large scale projects, projects Mr. Christy is already familiar with. Mr. Ulrich felt it would be a disservice to Authority customers to replace Mr. Christy at such a critical juncture.

The members of the Committee thanked Mr. Christy for taking the time to attend the meeting. Mr. Marmarou informed Mr. Christy that Council was not yet in a position to act on reappointments for the Water Authority. Mr. Marmarou promised Mr. Christy that Council staff would be in contact.

**The Administrative Oversight Committee did not recommend the reappointment of Mr. Lynn Christy to the Reading Area Water Authority.**